कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस०आर० बालासुब्रह्मण्यम): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) केन्द्रीय सचिवालय-सेवा (आचरण) नियमावली, 1964, सरकारी कर्मचारियों के राजनीतिक गतिविधियों में भाग लेने तथा चुनाव लड़ने का निषेध करती है। ये उपबन्ध, सिविल कर्मचारियों की, अपने कर्त्तव्यों के निर्वहन में निष्पक्षता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु अनिवार्य है।

Overhauling the Bureaucratic System

580. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, during a recent meeting, the Chief Secretaries of States and Union Territories demanded a thorough overhaul of the entire bureaucratic system to break the existing nexus amongst politicians, bureaucrats and criminals and stressed up on the procedural changes, consmetic abolition of some offices, etc.;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard;

(c) whether the Fifth Central Pay Commisssion has also recommended abolition of some of the Central Ministries; and

(d) if so, the reaction of government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALA-SUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (d) The Conference of Chief Secretaries held on 20th November, 1996 recommended, *inter alia*, that:

(i) The approach to the elimination of corruption in the public service needs to address prevention, surveillance and deterrent prosecution, and deal ruthlessly with the nexus between ciriminals and unscrupulous elements.

The Government of India and State Governments should draw up a Charter of Ethics and Civil Service Code for the civil service which is based on the fundamental principles of the Indian Constitution such as secularism, equality, impartiality, social justice, attention to the needs of the weaker sections, rule of law, etc. This code may also regulate the role of the legislators and the relationship between civil servants and politicians.

(ii) There is a need for steps to reorganise work procedures, for delegation down the line and an effective management information system accessible to all. Simultaneous steps to address the rightsizing of public services are necessary.

The recommendations of the Conference have been given wide publicity and are being followed up within the Central Government and with the State Governments for urgent processing. It is proposed to cenvene a Conference of Chief Ministers, after consolidating the views of different citizen groups as well as State Governments.

The Fifth Central Pay Commission has also suggested restructuring the Government which involves *Inter alia*, merger of certain existing Departments. A list of the Departments suggested by the Pay Commission for re-alignment is enclosed (*See* below). The Government have since set up an Empowered Committee to consider and process the recommendations of the Fifth Central Pay Commission. Accordingly, appropriate decisions on the above recommendations of the Fifth Central pay Commission would be taken having regard to all relevant factors.

Statement

Merger of Departments in the Central Government

Sl. No.	Departments(s) to be Merged	Ministry/Department in which to be Merged
1.	Department of Administrative Reforms	Cabinet Secretariat
2.	Department of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries	Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (to be renamed as Department of Agriculture)
3.	Departments of Jammu and Kashmir Affairs, Official languages and Inter-State Council	Ministry of Home Affairs
4.	Department of Consumer Affairs	Department of Civil Supplies and Public Distribution
5.	Department of Fertilizers	Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals
6.	Departments of Family, Welfare; Indian System of Medicine and Homeopathy	Department of Health
7.	Departments of Industrial policy and Promotion, Industrial Development; Public Enterprises; Heavy Industry; Small Scale Industries; Agro and Rural Industries and Ministry of Textiles.	To be merged into a new single department called Department of Industrial Development
8.	Departments of Culture; Youth Affairs and Sports; Women and Child Development	Department of Education
9.	Departments of Food Procurement and Distribution; Food processing industries	Department of Food
10.	Ministry of Non-Conventional energy Resources	Ministry of Power
11.	Department of Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation; Deptt. of Waste Land Development	Department of Rural
12.	Deptt. Of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation	Department of Urban Development
13.	Department of Statistics	Department of Planning
14.	Anticorruption wing of the CBI	Central Vigilance Commission

Opening of Regional Office of Staff Selection Commission in Kerala

581. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regional offices of Staff Selection Commission in the country, alongwith the locations thereof; and

(b) whether Government propose to open a regional office of SSC in Kerala considering the high literacy rate in the State?